



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Confirmation Number: 6389
Keisuke INOUE et al. Group Art Unit: 1742
Application Number: 10/803,915 Examiner: Deborah YEE
Filed: March 19, 2004 Attorney Docket Number: 107355-00111
For: HIGH-STRENGTH CARBURIZED PART AND A METHOD OF THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: December 26, 2006

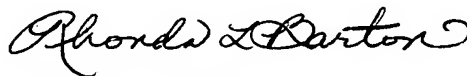
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information items listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the items be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☐ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☒ c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$180.00 for payment of the required fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p), and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket Number 107355-00111, as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicants hereby petition that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check number _____ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket Number _____, as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 4. The references are cited in Japanese Office Actions dated March 8, 2005, and August 29, 2006, for corresponding Japanese Patent Application Number 2003-077356. English language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a
Japanese Office Action with English Language Translation (2)
References (13)

Patent & Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Form PTO/SB/08a				Complete if Known Application Number 10/803,915 Filing Date March 19, 2004 First Named Inventor Keisuke INOUE et al. Art Unit 1742 Examiner Name Deborah YEE Attorney Docket Number 107355-00111	
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Country Code ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		61-133366	JP		06-20-1986	Shuji TANOGAMI et al.		AB
		4-21757	JP		01-24-1992	Makoto YOSHIDA et al.		AB
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		8-3720	JP		01-09-1996	Nobuhiro MURAI		AB
		10-152746	JP		06-09-1998	Toyoaki EGUCHI		AB
		11-350069	JP		12-21-1999	Juichi ITO et al.		AB
		2000-313950	JP		11-14-2000	Toshikatsu KOIKE et al.		AB
		2001-59565	JP		03-06-2001	Masahiro TODA et al.		AB
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		2001-200851	JP		07-27-2001	Masao GOTO		AB
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		2002-309318	JP		10-23-2002	Juichi ITO et al.		AB
		WO99/10557	WO	A1	03-04-1999	Akihiro KIUCHI et al.		AB

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.